



**Legislative Bulletin.....March 21, 2007**

**Contents:**

**H.R. 1130 — Judicial Disclosure Responsibility Act**

**Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:**

**Total Number of New Government Programs:** 0

**Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations:** \$0

**Effect on Revenue:** \$0

**Total Change in Mandatory Spending:** \$0

**Total New State & Local Government Mandates:** 0

**Total New Private Sector Mandates:** 0

**Number of Bills Without Committee Reports:** 1

**Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority:** 0

**H.R. 1130 — Judicial Disclosure Responsibility Act (*Conyers, D-MI*)**

**Order of Business:** The bill is scheduled for consideration on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 1130 would amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 regarding disclosure requirements for judges and their families, among other things. Specifically, the bill would:

- Restrict disclosure of personal information about the family members of judges (within certain reports required under federal law), where publication of this information may endanger the person (currently, this provision applies only to judges themselves, not their families);
- Extend the authority, from 2005 to 2009, of the Judicial Conference to redact certain personal information of judges from financial disclosure reports;
- Require the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AOUSC) to submit an annual report to Congress specifying: 1) the nature of the information redacted, 2) the procedures in place to ensure “sufficient information is available to litigants” to

determine if there is a conflict of interest, 3) principles used to determine redaction authority, and 4) any public complaints received relating to redacted information

**Additional Background:** The Judicial Conference’s responsibility is to make policy with regard to the administration of the United States courts (28 U.S.C. 331). For more information, please visit the [U.S. Federal Courts](http://www.uscourts.gov) website.

**Committee Action:** H.R. 1130 was introduced on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007, and referred to the Committee on Judiciary, which marked-up the bill and reported it to the House by voice vote on February 28<sup>th</sup> (House Report 110-59).

**Cost to Taxpayers:** CBO estimates that H.R. 1130 would have no significant effect on the budget.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

House Rule XIII, Section 3(d)(1), requires that all committee reports contain “a statement citing the *specific* powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the law proposed by the bill or joint resolution.” *[emphasis added]*

**RSC Staff Contact:** Derek V. Baker; [derek.baker@mail.house.gov](mailto:derek.baker@mail.house.gov); 202-226-8585

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